IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-10 (Canceled).

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A camera having an optical axis and comprising: an objective having an objective focal plane crossing the optical axis;

a spectral splitter configured to split light passing along the optical axis into spectral components;

photoelectric-effect sensors each configured to receive a respective one of the spectral components;

an optical viewfinder <u>located off the optical axis and</u> configured to provide an offfield view outside the field of image including a useful field image detected by the photoelectric-effect sensors and <u>located off the optical axis a peripheral field image</u> contacting a periphery of the useful field image; and

a shutter configured to allow the light of the optical axis to pass through the shutter, in an open position, towards the objective focal plane crossing the optical axis and configured to direct the light passing along the optical axis, in a closed position, towards the optical viewfinder.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The camera according to claim 11, wherein the camera comprises at least one mode in which the shutter periodically switches between the closed and the open positions, and

a switching period of the closed and the open positions is smaller than a duration of retinal persistence.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The camera according to claim 11, wherein the shutter comprises at least one rotational element including at least one mirror part corresponding to the closed position and at least one aperture part corresponding to the open position.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The camera according to claim 13, further comprising:

an automatic control device configured to maintain the rotative element at a speed of rotation proportional to a frequency of a synchronization signal used for reading of the photoelectric-effect sensors; and

a position sensor configured to detect a position of the rotative element,
the position sensor and the automatic control device enabling the rotative element to
be phase-shifted with respect to the synchronization signal.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The camera according to claim 14, wherein the position sensor is a frame transfer sensor.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The camera according to claim 13, wherein the shutter comprises three modes that can be selected by a user, including:

a viewfinder mode fixing the rotative element at a position in which the mirror part intersects the optical axis;

a video mode fixing the rotative element at a position in which the aperture part intersects the optical axis; and

a combined mode spinning the rotative element such that the mirror part and the aperture part periodically intersect the optical axis at a period smaller than a duration of retinal persistence.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The camera according to claim 13, wherein the rotative element includes at least two mirror parts and at least two aperture parts, and the mirror parts all cover a first angular sector and the aperture parts all cover a second angular sector.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The camera according to claim 17, wherein the shutter comprises at least two rotative elements having a same axis of rotation and offset by an angular offset such that the mirror parts of the rotative elements overlap at least partially.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The camera according to claim 18, wherein the angular offset can be selected by the user.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The camera according to claim 11, further comprising a screen configured to display the synthesis of the light components after passage into processing means.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The camera according to claim 11, further comprising:

an adapter configured to receive the light passing along the optical axis after having passed through the shutter and the focal plane,

and

wherein the spectral splitter is configured to receive the light passing along the optical axis after having passed through the adapter and is configured to split the received light along separate split patterns, and

the shutter is positioned between the objective and the objective focal plane.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): A camera having an optical axis and comprising:

a means for splitting light passing along the optical axis into spectral components;

photoelectric-effect means for receiving a respective one of the spectral components;

an optical viewfinder located off the optical axis and configured to provide an offfield view outside the field of image including a useful field image detected by the

photoelectric-effect sensors and located off the optical axis and a peripheral field image

contacting a periphery of the useful field image; and

means for directing the light passing along the optical axis to both the optical viewfinder and the photoelectric-effect means such that the off-field view is available to a user during imaging.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): A camera having an optical axis and comprising: a means for splitting light passing along the optical axis into spectral components; photoelectric-effect means for receiving a respective one of the spectral components;

means for providing an optical off-field view outside the field of by an optical viewfinder, the off-field view image including a useful field image detected by the photoelectric-effect-sensors means and a peripheral field image contacting a periphery of the useful field image.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): A method of using a camera having an optical axis, the method comprising:

passing light along the optical axis through an open position of a shutter in one shutter position, and directing the light away from the optical axis after interaction with the shutter in a second shutter position, said light directed away from the optical axis being directed towards an optical viewfinder located off the optical axis;

splitting the light passed through the shutter into spectral components and passing the split component to different photoelectric-effect sensors;

detecting each respective one of the spectral components with a corresponding photoelectric-effect sensor; and

providing an off-field view, outside the field of by an optical viewfinder, the off-field view image including a useful field image detected by the photoelectric-effect sensors, on the optical viewfinder and a peripheral field image contacting a periphery of the useful field image.

Claim 25 (New): The camera according to Claim 11, wherein the peripheral field image surrounds the useful field image.

Claim 26 (New): The camera according to Claim 22, wherein the peripheral field image surrounds the useful field image.

Claim 27 (New): The camera according to Claim 23, wherein the peripheral field image surrounds the useful field image.

Application No. 09/786,333 Reply to Office Action of March 9, 2005

Claim 28 (New): The camera according to Claim 24, wherein the peripheral field image surrounds the useful field image.